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May 17, 2000

Via Hand Delivery

Jeff S. Jordan, Esq.
Supervisory Attorney
Central Enforcement Docket
Federal Election Commission
999 E Street, N.W.
Washington, DC 20463

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FEDERAL ELECTION
COMMISSION
OFFICE OF GENERAL
COUNSEL
MAY 18 2 54 PM '00

Re: MUR 5006

Dear Mr. Jordan:

This is a response to the May 2, 2000, Federal Election Commission ("FEC" or "Commission") letter notifying Bush for President, Inc. and David Herndon as Treasurer ("collectively BFP") of a complaint filed by Mr. Robert Vinson Brannum in the above referenced matter, which was received by BFP on May 5, 2000.

Mr. Brannum filed the complaint against the television show "Hardball," its host, Chris Matthews, CNBC, the Republican National Committee, and BFP, for violating various provisions of the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971, as amended ("Act") as well as Federal Election Commission ("FEC") regulations. For the reasons set forth below, the Commission should find there is no reason to believe that BFP committed a violation and should dismiss the complaint.

Since neither Chris Matthews nor the show "Hardball" are in any way "affiliated" with BFP as the complaint alleges, MUR 5006 should be immediately dismissed as it relates to BFP. BFP does not own, control, or have any influence over the operation of CNBC, "Hardball," or Chris Matthews.

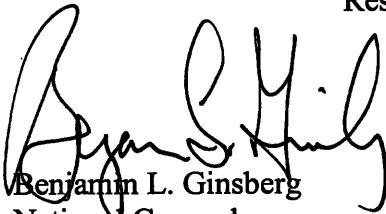
For the foregoing reasons, the Commission should find that there is no reason to believe that BFP violated the Act and should dismiss the complaint.


www.GeorgeWBush.com

Post Office Box 1902, Austin, Texas 78767-1902 OFFICE 512-637-2000 FAX 512-637-8800

Paid for by Bush for President, Inc.

Respectfully submitted,


Benjamin L. Ginsberg
National Counsel


Michael E. Toner
General Counsel

21.04.402.3246

STATEMENT OF DESIGNATION OF COUNSEL

MUR 5006

NAME OF COUNSEL: Michael Toner & Benjamin Ginsberg

FIRM: Bush for President, Inc.

ADDRESS: Post Office Box 1902

Austin, TX 78767-1902

TELEPHONE: (512) 344-4616

FAX: (512) 344-4602

The above-named individual is hereby designated as my counsel and is authorized to receive any notifications and other communications from the Commission and to act on my behalf before the Commission.

5-18-00
Date


Signature

RESPONDENT'S NAME: David Herndon

ADDRESS: Treasurer

Bush for President, Inc.

Post Office Box 1902 Austin, TX 78767-1902

TELEPHONE: HOME()

BUSINESS(512) 637-2000

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